

Application No.: 09/870,397

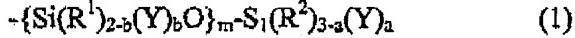
Docket No.: 21581-00271-US

LISTING OF CLAIMS WITH STATUS INDICATOR

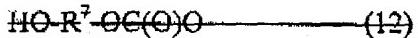
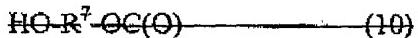
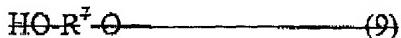
Claims 1-12, 24 and 25 are canceled. Claims 13, 20 and 21 are currently amended.

1-12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) A vinyl polymer which has at least one terminal functional group per molecule and has a ratio of weight average molecular weight to number average molecular weight of less than 1.8 as determined by gel permeation chromatography, said terminal functional group being a crosslinking silyl group of the general formula (1) shown below, or a hydroxyl group of the general formula (8), (9), (10), (11) or (12) shown below,



wherein R¹ and R² each independently represents an alkyl group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, an aryl group containing 6 to 20 carbon atoms, an aralkyl group containing 7 to 20 carbon atoms, or a triorganosiloxy group of the formula (R')₃SiO-, R' being a monovalent hydrocarbon residue containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms and the three R' groups being the same or different, provided that when a plurality of R¹ or R² groups occur, they may be the same or different; Y represents a hydroxyl group or a hydrolyzable group, provided that when a plurality of Y groups occur, they may be the same or different; a represents 0, 1, 2 or 3, b represents 0, 1 or 2, and m represents an integer of 0 to 19, provided that the condition a + mb ≥ 1 should be satisfied;



wherein R⁶ represents an alkylene group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, an arylene group containing 6 to 20 carbon atoms or an aralkylene group containing 7 to 20 carbon atoms, which may contain one or more ether bonds; and R⁷ represents an alkylene group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, an arylene group containing 6 to 20 carbon atoms or an aralkylene group containing 7 to 20 carbon atoms, and may contain one or more ether bonds; and said vinyl polymer being obtained by polymerization of a monomer containing at least one

Application No.: 09/870,397

Docket No.: 21581-00271-US

14. (previously presented) The vinyl polymer according to claim 13, wherein the ratio of weight average molecular weight to number average molecular weight as determined by gel permeation chromatography is not more than 1.7.

15. (previously presented) The vinyl polymer according to claim 13, wherein the ratio of weight average molecular weight to number average molecular weight as determined by gel permeation chromatography is not more than 1.6.

16. (previously presented) The vinyl polymer according to claim 13 wherein the ratio of weight average molecular weight to number average molecular weight as determined by gel permeation chromatography is not more than 1.5.

17. (previously presented) The polymer according to claim 13, wherein its main chain is a (meth)acrylic polymer.

18. (previously presented) The polymer according to claim 17, wherein the main chain is an acrylate ester polymer.

19. (previously presented) The polymer according to claim 13, wherein the main chain is produced by atom transfer radical polymerization.

20. (currently amended) The polymer according to claim 13 as produced by converting a terminal halogen group of the halogen-terminated vinyl polymer to a crosslinking silyl-containing substituent or a hydroxyl-containing substituent.

21. (currently amended) The crosslinking silyl-terminated vinyl polymer according to claim 13, wherein Y in general formula (1) is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a hydroxyl, alkoxy, acyloxy ketoximate, amino, amido, aminoxy, mercapto or alkenyloxy group, provided that when a plurality of Y groups occur, they may be the same or different with each other.

22. (previously presented) The vinyl polymer according to claim 21, wherein Y in general formula (1) is an alkoxy group.

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Application No.: 09/870,397

Docket No.: 21581-00271-US

23. (canceled)

24. (canceled)

25. (canceled)